

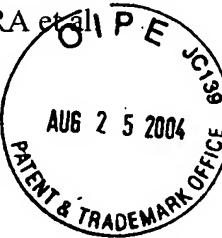
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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Masahiro HORA et al. PE  
Appl. No. : 10/824,464  
Filed : April 15, 2004

Group Art Unit : 2681  
Examiner : Not Yet Assigned  
Confirmation No. : 6197

For : SYSTEM FOR EXCHANGING MAIL AMONG MEMBERS  
BELONGING TO GROUP

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
220 20th Street S.  
Customer Window, Mail Stop Amendment  
Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03  
Arlington, VA 22202

Sir :

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98 and supplemental to the Information Disclosure Statement that was filed on July 22, 2004, Applicants hereby submit a copy of a European Search Report that was mailed on July 20, 2004, with respect to patent family member European Patent Application No. EP 04009036.7, in which the following documents were cited:

European Patent Application Publication No. EP 1 257 144, which was published on November 13, 2002;

International Patent Application Publication No. WO 01/65807, which was published on September 7, 2001;

International Patent Application Publication No. WO 03/039173, which was published on May 8, 2003;

European Patent Application Publication No. EP 1 257 110, which was published on November 13, 2002;

European Patent Application Publication No. EP 1 249 969, which was published on October 16, 2002; and

U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0070070 to YEAGER et al., which was published on April 10, 2003.

The category of relevance, pertinent portions, and claims to which each document is relevant, as ascertained by the European Examiner applying European rules to the European claims are set forth in the European Search Report.

Further to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's decision to waive the requirement under 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (a)(2)(i), a copy of the U.S. patent application publication is not enclosed herewith. However, if a copy is needed, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the above material and cite the same. Copies of the above-noted foreign documents are attached hereto and all of the documents are listed on the attached PTO-1449 Form. The Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached Form and to return a copy of the completed Form to the Applicants with the next official communication in the present application.

Applicants note that an Office Action on the merits has not issued in the present application, and thus no fee is believed necessary to ensure consideration of the submitted material. However, if an Office Action on the merits has issued and is crossing this statement in the mail, the undersigned hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge any

fee necessary for the consideration of this statement, including any payment under 37  
C.F.R. §1.17 (p) to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the  
undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Masahiro HORA et al.

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August 23, 2004  
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